

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

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SUBJ: APPLICATION FORMS FOR US FISHING PERMITS

REF: A) STATE 281729; B) STATE 295103

1. EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER WAS REQUESTED TO GO
TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON DECEMBER 21
TO RECEIVE THE COMPLETED COPIES OF THE SUBJECT
APPLICATION FORMS FOR GDR VESSELS TO BE ENGAGED
IN FISHING AND FISH PROCESSING OFF THE EAST COAST
OF THE U.S. IN 1977. THE FORMS GIVEN TO US INCLUDED
THE APPLICATION FOR VESSEL PERMITS DATED DECEMBER 20,
1976 AND AN ATTACHMENT DESCRIBING THE 27 GDR
VESSELS EXPECTED TO TAKE PART IN THESE FISHING OPERATIONS
(TABULATION OF ITEMS 5 AND 20 OF INDIVIDUAL SHIP FORMS). IN
ADDITION SEPARATE FISHING VESSEL IDENTIFICATION FORMS FOR
EACH OF THE SHIPS CONCERNED WERE HANDED OVER.
THESE DOCUMENTS ARE THE ONES REFERRED TO IN REFS A & B.
WHEN IT WAS POINTED OUT TO SIEMENS THAT
THESE DOCUMENTS SHOULD HAVE BEEN RECEIVED IN THE
STATE DEPARTMENT ON DECEMBER 20, HE REPLIED THAT THE
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FOREIGN MINISTRY DID NOT FILL OUT THE FORMS ITSELF
BUT THAT ANOTHER GDR MINISTRY WAS RESPONSIBLE. EMBOFF
INDICATED THAT THE COMPLETED FORMS WOULD BE SENT TO THE
STATE DEPARTMENT IN THE FIRST AVAILABLE DIPLOMATIC
POUCH. THIS POUCH DEPARTS WEST BERLIN BY APO THE
AFTERNOON OF DECEMBER 22 WITH AN ESTIMATED TRAVEL

TIME TO WASHINGTON OF THREE TO FOUR DAYS. THESE FORMS THEREFORE SHOULD BE RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT EARLY IN THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27.

2. DURING THE MEETING ON DECEMBER 21 MR. SIEMENS ALSO PRESENTED A "NON-PAPER" MAKING SOME POINTS WITH REGARD TO THE COMPLETED FORMS; GIVING AN INDICATION OF THE GDR'S FISHING PLANS IN THE FISHING AREA CONCERNED; AND ASKING SOME QUESTIONS OF A PRACTICAL NATURE REGARDING QUOTAS AND PERMITS. WE OBTAINED BOTH AN ENGLISH AND GERMAN VERSION OF THIS PAPER WHICH WILL BE SENT ALONG WITH THE FORMS THEMSELVES AS NOTED ABOVE. BECAUSE THE TEXT OF THE "NON-PAPER" IS SHORT AND BECAUSE OF THE DELAY IN TRANSMITTING THE INFORMATION THEREIN TO THE DEPARTMENT, THE TEXT OF THIS "NON-PAPER" IS GIVEN BELOW. IN SOME CASES IT IS IMPORTANT TO COMPARE THE ENGLISH AND GERMAN TEXTS OF THE PAPER BECAUSE THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION IS NOT AS CLEAR AS IT MIGHT BE.

3. TEXT OF "NON-PAPER" IS:

(A) CONCERNING FISHING VESSEL IDENTIFICATION FORM

1 - IDENTIFICATION FORMS HAVE BEEN COMPLETED FOR 11 SIDE TRAWLERS, BUT UNDER ITEM 20 NO ENTRY HAS BEEN MADE CONCERNING SPECIES AND CONTEMPLATED CATCH. THESE VESSELS ARE EXCLUSIVELY USED FOR THE SALTING OF HERRING OR MACKEREL AT SEA, TAKING ON THE CATCH OF STERN TRAWLERS.

A TRANSPORT VESSEL (ROS 318 "BREITLING")
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IS ATTACHED TO THIS FLOTILLA. THE "BREITLING" SERVES THE FURTHER PROCESSING AND TRANSPORT OF BARRELED FISH.

2 - THE TERM "ZONE TIME" AS USED UNDER ITEM 15 MEANS THAT THE FREQUENCIES INDICATED REFER TO LOCAL TIME OFF THE US COAST.

3 - THE PARTICULARS REQUESTED UNDER ITEM 21 CANNOT AS YET BE SUPPLIED. THEY WILL BE PROVIDED LATER.

(B) CONCERNING THE PLANNED OPERATING SCHEDULE OF THE VESSELS

1 - PLANS FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1977 PROVIDE THAT OUT OF THE MACKEREL QUOTA ALLOTTED A TOTAL OF 8,040 TONS WILL BE FISHED BY 12 FISHING VESSELS. THE COMPARATIVELY LARGE NUMBER OF VESSELS INVOLVED IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT COMPARED TO OUR TRADITIONAL FISHING GROUNDS WHERE WE HAVE SO FAR OPERATED, THE CATCH PER DAY ON THE FISHING GROUND NOW PRESCRIBED IS EXPECTED TO BE LOWER.

2 - IN THE APPLICATION FOR FISHING VESSEL

PERMITS REFERENCE WAS MADE, FOR THE PERIOD FROM OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 1977, ONLY TO MACKEREL FISHING. EIGHT VESSELS ARE EXPECTED TO CATCH ALTOGETHER 3,985 TONS OF MACKEREL, RESULTING, FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR OF 1977, IN A TOTAL MACKEREL CATCH OF 12,025 TONS.

3 - AS REGARDS FISHING FOR HERRING, IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE 11 SIDE TRAWLERS INCLUDED IN THE FLOTILLA WILL ONLY DO THE SALTING OF HERRING AT SEA AND WILL NOT ENGAGE IN ANY FISHING OPERATIONS AT THEIR OWN.

4 - MOREOVER, IN FISHING FOR HERRING, A GREATER FISHING EFFORT IS PROBABLY REQUIRED THIS YEAR AS AGAINST THE PAST FEW YEARS, SINCE THE FISHING GROUND PRESCRIBED IS SMALL AND THERE IS NO OPPORTUNITY FOR FISHING OUTSIDE THAT AREA.

FOR THIS REASON IT WAS NECESSARY TO PROVIDE FOR 10 FISHING VESSELS TO CATCH THE QUOTA OF 4,825 TONS.

(C) OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS CONCERNING FISHING VESSEL PERMITS
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1 - WHAT POSSIBILITIES ARE THERE, PROVIDED A VESSEL SUFFERS DAMAGE, TO APPLY FOR A NEW PERMIT FOR ANOTHER VESSEL OF THE SAME TYPE?

2 - IS IT POSSIBLE TO TRANSFER THE PARTIAL CATCH QUOTA ALLOTTED TO A PARTICULAR VESSEL TO ANOTHER VESSEL THAT ALREADY HAS A PERMIT, IF THERE IS MORE FISH THAN ESTIMATED?

3 - THROUGH SUCH TRANSFER OF QUOTAS IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO USE FEWER VESSELS THAN CURRENTLY PLANNED.

4 - WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE IN APPLYING FOR FURTHER PERMITS IN CASE THE PLANNED CATCH OF 8,040 TONS OF MACKEREL CANNOT BE FISHED IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1977?

5 - HAVING THE A.M. QUESTIONS ANSWERED IS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE FOR PRACTICAL FISHING OPERATIONS.

4. COMMENT: EMBOFF HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS:

(A) 3 - SIEMENS SAID THAT UNDER ITEM 21 OF THE FISHING VESSEL IDENTIFICATION FORM THEY WERE YET UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF AN AGENT. HE SAID THIS SUBJECT IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION WITHIN THE GDR GOVERNMENT AND THAT HE EXPECTS THE GDR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON TO COME TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION IN OBTAINING AN AGENT.

(C) 2 & 3 - SIEMENS SAID THAT HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THIS QUESTION WAS WHETHER OR NOT A PARTICULAR FISHING VESSEL WITH A PERMIT WHICH ALREADY HAD REACHED ITS SEPARATE QUOTA COULD TRANSFER PART OF ITS CATCH

TO ANOTHER VESSEL IN THE GROUP WHICH DID NOT HAVE ITS
FULL CATCH. HE DESCRIBED THIS AS A PRACTICAL CONSIDERATION
ONLY SINCE THE TOTAL QUOTA WOULD REMAIN WITHIN
SPECIFIED LIMITS IN ANY CASE.

(C) 5 - THE ABBREVIATION A.M. MEANS "ABOVE MENTIONED".

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5. DURING THIS SAME CONVERSATION IT WAS STATED
BY SIEMENS THAT THE GDR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IS OR
WOULD SOON BE APPLYING FOR PERMISSION FOR TWO GDR
COMMERCIAL VESSELS TO CALL AT AMERICAN PORTS. HE
SAID HE BELIEVED THE CREW LISTS WHICH ARE REQUIRED
TO BE PRESENTED 21 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF EACH VISIT
HAVE ALREADY BEEN PRESENTED TO THE DEPARTMENT.
HE SAID THE NOTIFICATION OF THE SHIPS THEMSELVES,
THEIR DESCRIPTIONS AND THEIR PROPOSED PORTS OF CALL IN THE
U.S. WOULD BE PRESENTED SHORTLY IN ORDER TO MAKE THE NECESSARY
14 DAY ADVANCE NOTIFICATION. SIEMENS SAID THAT THE SHIPS WERE
EXPECTED TO VISIT SOME TIME DURING THE TIME FRAME JANUARY
25, 1977. POLANSKY

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